

Message Text

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ACTION CPR-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 SS-15 (ISO) W

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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3703

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 8116

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, SP

SUBJECT: DRESS FOR FUNERAL OF FRANCO AND PROCLAMATION OF KING

REF: STATE 272956

1. CHIEF OF PROTOCOL HAS PROVIDED FOLLOWING ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS
RAISED IN PARAS 2, 3 AND 4 REFTEL.

2. IT IS CONFIRMED THAT LADIES ATTENDING MASS MAY WEAR SHORT
OR LONG DRESS AT THEIR OPTION. HOWEVER, LONG DRESS IS CONSIDERED
MORE SUITABLE. AT PRESENT, IT IS PLANNED THAT LADIES CAN
ATTEND FUNERAL MASS ONLY IF THEY ARE OFFICIAL DELEGATES OR
WIVES OF RESIDENT AMBASSADORS.

3. DRESS FOR FUNERAL MASS WILL BE FULL EVENING DRESS WITH WHITE
TIE, BLACK WAISTCOAT AND BLACK GLOVES.

4. DRESS FOR PROCLAMATION OF KING WILL BE MORNING SUIT WITH
REGULAR FOUR-IN-HAND TIE WHICH NEED NOT NECESSARILY BE BLACK.
TOP HAT IS OPTIONAL.

5. CHIEF OF PROTOCOL INDICATED THAT AFTER FUNERAL MASS,
ALL DELEGATIONS WOULD PARTICIPATE IN A FOOT CORTEGE FOLLOWING
THE COFFIN. THIS CORTEGE WOULD FOLLOW A FAIRLY LONG ROUTE,
AT END OF WHICH DELEGATES WOULD FILE BY COFFIN AND FAMILY TO PAY
THEIR LAST RESPECTS. AT THIS POINT, DELEGATES WOULD PROCEED
AT THEIR DISCRETION BY CAR FOR BURIAL CEREMONIES IN THE VALLE
DE LOS CAIDOS OUTSIDE OF MADRID. CHIEF OF PROTOCOL SIAD HE
ASSUMED MOST DELEGATIONS WOULD PARTICIPATE IN THIS LAST
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CEREMONY.

6. WHEN ASKED ABOUT A RELIGIOUS SERVICE AND RECEPTION AT THE ROYAL PALACE THREE OR FOUR DAYS AFTER THE FUNERAL, CHIEF OF PROTOCOL SAID HE HAD NO INFORMATION ON THIS.

COMMENT: WHILE IT APPEARS THAT A FINAL DECISION ON A RELIGIOUS SERVICE AND A RECEPTION AT THE ROYAL PALACE THREE OR FOUR DAYS AFTER THE FUNERAL HAS NOT YET BEEN MADE, WE BELIEVE THAT SUCH CEREMONIES ARE, INDEED, LIKELY AND THAT ARRANGEMENTS FOR THEM WILL BE HANDLED BY THE NEW KING'S HOUSEHOLD RATHER THAN BY THE FOREIGN OFFICE. AS THE DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, JUAN CARLOS IS MOST ANXIOUS THAT HIGHEST LEVEL POSSIBLE DELEGATIONS ATTEND SUCH CEREMONIES.
END COMMENT.
STABLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CHIEF OF STATE, STATE FUNERALS, DIPLOMATIC PROTOCOL
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MADRID08116
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750402-1072
From: MADRID
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751129/aaaaazjy.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION CPR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 272956
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 JUN 2003 by WorrelSW>; APPROVED <31 OCT 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DRESS FOR FUNERAL OF FRANCO AND PROCLAMATION OF KING
TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, SP, (FRANCO BAHAMONDE, FRANCISCO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006